



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
**West Virginia Field Office**  
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## OCTOBER RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia - Commercial red meat production** during October 2018 totaled 1.20 million pounds. This was unchanged from October 2017. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 1,622,000 pounds live weight, up 2 percent from October 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,700 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 952 pounds.

**Commercial calf slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 306,000 pounds live weight, down 12 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 1,000 head, down 200 head from the previous year. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 299 pounds.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**United States - Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.90 billion pounds in October, up 6 percent from the 4.64 billion pounds produced in October 2017.

**Beef production**, at 2.43 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 6 percent from October 2017. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 1,363 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 7.2 million pounds, 13 percent above October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 53,800 head, up 22 percent from October 2017. The average live weight was down 18 pounds from last year, at 232 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.45 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.6 million head, up 6 percent from October 2017. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 283 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.1 million pounds, was up 10 percent from October 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 199,800 head, 9 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, up 2 pounds from October a year ago.

**January to October 2018 commercial red meat production** was 44.4 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was up 2 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 6 percent.

**October 2017** contained 22 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

**October 2018** contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

*Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.*